Criteria & Guidelines for the 2003 Presidential Awards for Leadership in Federal Energy Management and the Federal Energy and Water Management Awards

I. FOCUS

FEMP Awards. The Department of Energy's Federal Energy Management Program (FEMP), in conjunction with the Federal Interagency Energy Policy Committee (the "656" Committee), will present the 2003 Federal Energy and Water Management Awards (FEMP Awards). The FEMP Awards will recognize outstanding achievements in:

- the conservation and efficient use of energy and water;
- the use of new and emerging energy technologies;
- the use of innovative strategies, best practices and applications;
- the use of renewable energy sources;
- the use of alternative financing; and
- energy-efficient mobility by the Federal Government.

Presidential Awards. Section 306(2) of Executive Order 13123 states, "The Deputy Director for Management of OMB shall also select outstanding agency energy management team(s), from among candidates nominated by DOE, for a new annual Presidential award for Energy efficiency." The Administration will grant the Presidential Award for Leadership in Federal Energy Management to agency team(s) that have excelled in the use of the energy efficiency and management tools specified in the Order. Nominations will be evaluated on the following criteria: implementation, institutionalization, outreach, and results. (See Section XI for more detail.) The nomination can either be submitted 1) solely for Presidential Award consideration or 2) for both a FEMP Effective Program Implementation and Management Award and a Presidential Award. Presidential Award winners will only be selected from the nominations submitted to FEMP.

II. IMPORTANT CHANGES FROM 2002

RESULTS ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT! Please be sure to discuss quantifiable and tangible benefits resulting from your project – <u>tell us your story</u>. Results that could be highlighted in the award nomination include actual energy and cost savings, solutions to project obstacles, barriers overcome in the project process, and non-energy environmental benefits. Other important aspects of your nomination to highlight include sustainable features and integrated whole building design efforts.

THE EVALUATION CRITERIA USED TO JUDGE ALL NOMINATIONS HAVE CHANGED. We recommend reviewing these new criteria in order to ensure that your

submission contains all the information the evaluation committee will consider when judging the nominations. Please see Section XI for the updated criteria.

III. NOMINEE CLASSIFICATIONS

Nominations should be tailored to be considered in one of three classifications: Individuals, Small Groups, or Organizations. **Nominations for the same program/project in different classifications will generally not be accepted**. Duplicate nominations will be identified during the prescreening process, and only under special circumstances will separate awards be found appropriate.

Individuals - Individual awards will be presented to persons who were directly responsible for the achievement of significant improvement in energy, water, or renewable energy use. Any Federal employee or contractor operator of a Federal facility may be nominated to compete for these awards. Names, titles, mailing addresses, e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers for individuals being nominated for this award must be provided on the nomination cover sheet.

Small Groups - Small group awards will be presented to groups of no more than five (5) individuals who participated significantly in the improvement of energy, water, or renewable energy use. Emphasis shall be given to projects developed as a result of the group efforts. Names, titles, mailing addresses, e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers of the small group members being nominated for this award must be provided as a separate sheet that is attached to the nomination.

Organizations - Organizational awards will be presented to groups that demonstrated a well-managed, comprehensive program and/or significant reductions in energy or water use or expanded use of renewable energy, and implementation of effective low-cost, no-cost programs. Specific information on all individuals in the group is not required for nomination under this category. However, a contact name, mailing address, e-mail address, and telephone number at the organization is <u>required</u> and must be provided on the cover sheet. If selected for an award, the organization contact will be asked for more information regarding the members of the winning organization.

IV. FEMP AWARD CATEGORIES

Awards will be presented to individuals, small groups, and organizations for outstanding performance in the following categories:

- Energy Efficiency/Energy Management
- Innovation/Innovative New Technology
- Renewable Energy
- Alternative Financing Projects (ESPC's/Utility Service Agreements)
- Energy-Efficient Mobility
- Water Conservation (includes beneficial landscaping practices)
- Effective Program Implementation and Management (See Presidential Award information in Sections V and XI)

NOTE: Please refer to the Glossary at the end of this solicitation for detailed descriptions of these categories and for other pertinent definitions.

Awardees will be selected from outstanding Federal employees and contributors who have demonstrated leadership and exemplary efforts in energy and water management, use of renewable and distributed energy resources, implementing innovative techniques and applications, increasing efficiency of mobile equipment, and any other area that may merit recognition.

V. SPECIAL AWARD CATEGORIES

There are four special award categories, described below:

- 1. Presidential Award for Leadership in Federal Energy Management The President will recognize outstanding agency energy management team(s) for contributions to successful Federal energy management in all or one or more of four categories (see Special Award Categories; Presidential Awards in Section XI). We recommend you provide specific language in the nomination for an Effective Program Implementation and Management award that addresses how the agency team is supporting E.O. 13123 in the following categories: implementation, institutionalization, outreach and results, including the costs for the benefit received. (For more details see Special Award Categories in Section XI)
- **2. Exceptional Service Award -** In addition to other nominations, each agency may nominate a <u>single</u> individual to represent the <u>agency</u> as an exceptional service award nominee. The exceptional service award nominee should be an individual who has been responsible for creating and instituting innovative and effective energy or water conservation programs, projects, or technologies or increased the use of renewable energy.
- **3. Director's Award** At the discretion of the Director of FEMP, special citation(s) may be awarded to individuals, small groups, and/or organizations making unique contributions to Federal energy management, water efficiency, or use of renewable energy that have enhanced an agency's efforts to achieve substantial savings through special circumstances.
- **4.** ENERGY STAR® Building Award for Superior Performance The FEMP ENERGY STAR® Buildings Award recognizes Federal leadership in operating and managing buildings that received energy performance scores of 95 or higher, out of a possible 100, in FY 2002, earning them ENERGY STAR® labels. Award winners will be identified from the EPA ENERGY STAR® Buildings Program's database of FY 2002 building label awards.

NOTE: Federal Energy Saver Showcase Designation

The Federal Energy Saver Showcase (Showcase) designation form submission process is **separate** from the FEMP award nomination process described in this document. Please see the Showcase Designation Form that was sent with this document. FEMP will consider recognizing exemplary Showcases at the FEMP awards ceremony.

VI. PERIOD OF ELIGIBILITY

The 2003 awards will recognize achievements accomplished in fiscal year 2002 where installation has been completed and *savings have begun to accrue*. Future or expected results will not be considered, except for those projects in the Alternative Finance category (see Section XI for more details.)

VII. ELIGIBILITY

Individual Award

Must be either:

- Federal Personnel
- Contractor Operator of Federal Facility

Small Group Award

Can include the following:

- Federal Personnel
- Contractor Operator of Federal Facility
- Contributor

Organization Award

Large group of Federal Employees, Contractor Operators, and/or Contributors

Presidential Awards

Restricted to a cohesive group of federal employees and, as appropriate, contractor operators of federal facilities.

VIII. NOMINATING PROCEDURES

Any civilian or military employee may nominate any Federal employee, contractor operator of a Federal facility, or contributor for an award. The nomination must be approved by the nominee's immediate supervisor or the head of the organization's next hierarchical level, and must be submitted to FEMP through the nominating agency's energy coordinator. The cover sheet shows where signatures of approval must occur. Supervisors are responsible for vetting and verifying claims made in the nominations.

Nominations may also come from the DOE Regional Support Offices, using the same nomination form. If the Regional Support Office chooses to nominate a Federal energy or water manager, small group, or organization from another agency, the nomination must be approved by the nominee's agency before being submitted to the FEMP office.

All nominations submitted from private sector organizations, such as utilities, energy services companies, and industrial companies and associations must be submitted through the nominee's agency energy coordinator.

IX. FORMAT FOR SUBMISSIONS

Each civilian agency or service within DOD (i.e., Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, etc.) may submit up to 30 nominations. Nominations for awards should contain information in sufficient detail to permit evaluation of the achievement. Nominations must include the following (shown on cover sheet):

- A statement as to whether or not nominee has received any other awards (internal or external) for this achievement.
- Specify award category (i.e. energy efficiency/management, innovation/innovative new technology, renewable energy, energy efficient mobility, alternative finance, or effective program implementation and management).
- A summary of the nomination, 75 to 100 words, highlighting the significance of the achievement, suitable for use in an awards presentation.
- Narrative of the accomplishment: This is the most important part of the nomination package and should CLEARLY address the evaluation criteria in Section XI.
- Nominations must designate whether they are for an Individual, Small Group, or Organization award.

Nominations <u>must</u> contain narratives <u>not to exceed four single-spaced pages</u>. The narrative should describe the activities and accomplishments of the nominee during the 12 months of fiscal year 2002; as well as describe the cost or investments for the project or activities, the energy, water, and cost savings that have and will result from the project or activities, and any program implementation and management successes. Renewable energy project nominations must identify the type of renewable energy or renewable strategies used in the project. Innovative/new technology nominations must be unique in comparison to projects utilizing time-honored strategies or off-the-shelf technologies.

In order for the judges to adequately evaluate the nominations, the narratives should focus on the results of the project. In the case of those nominees in the Alternative Financing category, the narrative should describe the activities that led to the award of an ESPC or utility service agreement in fiscal year 2002.

Again, each narrative **cannot exceed four pages**. Supplemental materials such as photographs or relevant documentation may be appended, and should be included as part of a Presidential Award nomination. These materials will not be returned. Supplemental materials may be directly considered in cases where the award is for measurement or tracking of costs or investments, or for agency awards where the product is a plan, procedure, or guidelines.

Each nomination **MUST** be accompanied by the cover sheet attached. This form is also available on the FEMP Internet homepage in a downloadable format. The address is http://www.eren.doe.gov/femp/prodtech/awards/awardsprog.html.

X. DEVIATION FROM FORMAT

To avoid delay in the selection and notification process of the Awards program, deviations from the format will not be permitted. FEMP may exclude any non-conforming nomination from the selection process.

XI. SELECTION CRITERIA AND EVALUATION OF NOMINATIONS

A panel of judges will evaluate award nominations. Nominations should only be submitted for projects that were completed, <u>or realized first savings</u>, in fiscal year 2002. The judgment of the evaluators shall be solely based on the narrative provided with the nomination.

FEMP AWARDS:

Please include detailed information on all the award criteria that apply to your nomination. NOMINATION MUST INCLUDE AN EXPLANATION AS TO WHY A CERTAIN CRITERIA DOES NOT APPLY TO YOUR NOMINATION. In scoring the nominations, the evaluators will consider applicable project/program characteristics as describes below. Each criterion will be given a score between 0 (no information or explanation provided) and 10 (maximum score.) The scores for the criteria in *bold italics* will be multiplied by 2 before tabulating the scores. The total score will be a percentage calculated by dividing the points received by the total possible points.

Energy Efficiency/Energy Management Category

- 1. <u>Energy Savings</u>: Amount of energy and/or water savings as a result of the project, in terms of both the absolute quantity and percentage when compared to the previous fiscal year.
- 2. <u>Cost Savings</u>: Cost effectiveness of the investment as judged by the ratio of savings to investment.
- 3. <u>Environmental and/or Non-Energy Benefits</u>: Magnitude of environmental and/or non-energy benefits derived from the project and the extent to which sustainable and greening practices were encouraged, project barriers were overcome, obstacles averted, innovative technologies or practices used, dollars saved, etc.
- 4. <u>Institutionalization and Transferability</u>: Efforts to ensure the project has a lasting impact on the facility and to demonstrate leadership in fostering the promotion of energy and water conservation projects, and to expand the savings to other facilities, government agencies or the private sector.
- 5. <u>Outreach Activities</u>: Extent to which management, facility staff, and the public were educated and/or trained on this project and/or energy and water conservation generally and the extent to which positive publicity was generated either locally or nationally.

6. <u>Adequacy of Information</u>: Extent to which the nomination provided comparable and quantifiable data and information on the changes resulting from the activity, i.e. data or other information showing differences in the facility's energy/water use and/or environmental conditions, organizational and/or institutional changes, necessary hardware improvements, measurement and verification figures and dollar savings.

Innovative/New Technology Category

Individual, Small Group, and Organization Classifications

- 1. <u>Innovative/New Aspects</u>: Extent to which the project is creative, unique and/or distinguishable from typical energy or water projects.
- 2. <u>Environmental and/or Non-Energy Benefits</u>: Magnitude of environmental and/or non-energy benefits derived from the project and the extent to which sustainable and greening practices were encouraged, project barriers were overcome, obstacles averted etc.
- 3. <u>Savings</u>: Extent to which the innovative technology, design or practice reduced energy or water consumption and/or achieved significant dollar savings.
- 4. <u>Institutionalization and Transferability</u>: Efforts to ensure the project has a lasting impact on the facility and to demonstrate leadership in fostering the promotion of energy and water conservation projects, and to expand the savings to other facilities, government agencies or the private sector.
- 5. <u>Outreach Activities</u>: Extent to which management, facility staff, and the public were educated and/or trained on this project and/or energy and water conservation generally and the extent to which positive publicity was generated either locally or nationally.
- 6. <u>Adequacy of Information</u>: Extent to which the nomination provided comparable and quantifiable data and information on the changes resulting from the activity, i.e. data or other information showing differences in the facility's energy/water use and/or environmental conditions, organizational and/or institutional changes, necessary hardware improvements, measurement and verification figures and dollar savings.

Renewable Energy Category

- 1. <u>Energy Savings</u>: Amount of renewable energy produced or purchased as a result of the project, in terms of both the absolute quantity and percentage when compared to the previous fiscal year.
- 2. <u>Environmental and/or Non-Energy Benefits</u>: Magnitude of environmental and/or non-energy benefits derived from the project and the extent to which sustainable and greening practices were encouraged, project barriers were overcome, obstacles averted, innovative technologies or practices used, dollars saved, etc.
- 3. <u>Institutionalization and Transferability</u>: Efforts to ensure the project has a lasting impact on the facility and to demonstrate leadership in fostering the promotion of

- energy and water conservation projects, and to expand the benefits to other facilities, government agencies or the private sector.
- 4. <u>Outreach Activities</u>: Extent to which management, facility staff, and the public were educated and/or trained on this project and/or energy and water conservation generally and the extent to which positive publicity was generated either locally or nationally.
- 5. <u>Adequacy of Information</u>: Extent to which the nomination provided comparable and quantifiable data and information on the changes resulting from the activity, i.e. data or other information showing differences in the facility's energy/water use and/or environmental conditions, organizational and/or institutional changes, necessary hardware improvements, measurement and verification figures, and dollar savings.

Alternative Finance Category

Individual Classification

- 1. <u>Champion Qualities</u>: Extent to which the nominee's efforts enabled the project to move forward. (i.e. but for the individual would the project have been completed? Been completed in a significantly longer timeframe? Been smaller in scope? Etc.)
- 2. <u>Cost Effectiveness</u>: As judged by the ratio of the life-cycle cost savings to the government compared to the total investment for the project.
- 3. <u>Energy Savings</u>: Amount of energy and/or water savings as a result of the project, in terms of both the absolute quantity and percentage when compared to the previous fiscal year.
- 4. <u>Environmental and/or Non-Energy Benefits</u>: Magnitude of environmental and/or non-energy benefits derived from the project and the extent to which sustainable and greening practices were encouraged, project barriers were overcome, obstacles averted, innovative technologies or practices used, dollars saved, etc.
- 5. <u>Institutionalization and Transferability</u>: Efforts to ensure the project has a lasting impact on the facility and to demonstrate leadership in fostering the promotion of energy and water conservation projects or alternative finance elsewhere in the department or facility, and to expand the savings to other facilities, government agencies or the private sector.
- 6. <u>Outreach Activities</u>: Extent to which management, facility staff, and the public were educated and/or trained on this project and/or energy and water conservation generally and the extent to which positive publicity was generated either locally or nationally.
- 7. <u>Adequacy of Information</u>: Extent to which the nomination provided comparable and quantifiable data and information on the changes resulting from the activity, i.e. data or other information showing differences in the facility's energy/water use and/or environmental conditions, organizational and/or institutional changes, necessary hardware improvements, measurement and verification figures, and dollar savings.

Alternative Finance Category

Small Groups and Organization Classifications

- 1. <u>Cost Effectiveness</u>: As judged by the ratio of the life-cycle cost savings to the government compared to the total investment for the project.
- 2. <u>Energy Savings</u>: Amount of energy and/or water savings as a result of the project, in terms of both the absolute quantity and percentage when compared to the previous fiscal year.
- 3. <u>Environmental and/or Non-Energy Benefits</u>: Magnitude of environmental and/or non-energy benefits derived from the project and the extent to which sustainable and greening practices were encouraged, project barriers were overcome, obstacles averted, innovative technologies or practices used, dollars saved, etc.
- 4. <u>Institutionalization and Transferability</u>: Efforts to ensure the project has a lasting impact on the facility and to demonstrate leadership in fostering the promotion of energy and water conservation projects or alternative finance elsewhere in the department or facility, and to expand the savings to other facilities, government agencies or the private sector.
- 5. <u>Outreach Activities</u>: Extent to which management, facility staff, and the public were educated and/or trained on this project and/or energy and water conservation generally and the extent to which positive publicity was generated either locally or nationally.
- 6. <u>Adequacy of Information</u>: Extent to which the nomination provided comparable and quantifiable data and information on the changes resulting from the activity, i.e. data or other information showing differences in the facility's energy/water use and/or environmental conditions, organizational and/or institutional changes, necessary hardware improvements, measurement and verification figures, and dollar savings.

Energy-Efficient Mobility Category

- 1. <u>Energy Savings</u>: Amount of energy and/or water savings as a result of the project, in terms of both the absolute quantity and percentage when compared to the previous fiscal year.
- 2. <u>Cost Savings</u>: Cost effectiveness of the investment as judged by the ratio of savings to investment.
- 3. <u>Environmental and/or Non-Energy Benefits</u>: Magnitude of environmental and/or non-energy benefits derived from the project and the extent to which sustainable and greening practices were encouraged, project barriers were overcome, obstacles averted, innovative technologies or practices used, dollars saved, etc.
- 4. <u>Institutionalization and Transferability</u>: Efforts to ensure the project has a lasting impact on the facility and to demonstrate leadership in fostering the promotion of energy and water conservation projects, and to expand the savings to other facilities, government agencies or the private sector.
- 5. <u>Outreach Activities</u>: Extent to which management, facility staff, and the public were educated and/or trained on this project and/or energy and water conservation generally and the extent to which positive publicity was generated either locally or nationally.

6. <u>Adequacy of Information</u>: Extent to which the nomination provided comparable and quantifiable data and information on the changes resulting from the activity, i.e. data or other information showing differences in the facility's energy/water use and/or environmental conditions, organizational and/or institutional changes, necessary hardware improvements, measurement and verification figures and dollar savings.

Water Conservation Category

Individual, Small Group, and Organization Classifications

- 1. <u>Water Savings</u>: Amount of water and/or energy savings as a result of the project, in terms of both the absolute quantity and percentage when compared to the previous fiscal year.
- 2. <u>Cost Savings</u>: Cost effectiveness of the investment as judged by the ratio of savings to investment.
- 3. <u>Environmental and/or Non-Energy Benefits</u>: Magnitude of environmental and/or non-energy benefits derived from the project and the extent to which sustainable and greening practices were encouraged, project barriers were overcome, obstacles averted, innovative technologies or practices used, dollars saved, etc.
- 4. <u>Institutionalization and Transferability</u>: Efforts to ensure the project has a lasting impact on the facility and to demonstrate leadership in fostering the promotion of energy and water conservation projects, and to expand the savings to other facilities, government agencies or the private sector.
- 5. <u>Outreach Activities</u>: Extent to which management, facility staff, and the public were educated and/or trained on this project and/or energy and water conservation generally and the extent to which positive publicity was generated either locally or nationally.
- 6. <u>Adequacy of Information</u>: Extent to which the nomination provided comparable and quantifiable data and information on the changes resulting from the activity, i.e. data or other information showing differences in the facility's energy/water use and/or environmental conditions, organizational and/or institutional changes, necessary hardware improvements, measurement and verification figures and dollar savings.

Effective Program Implementation and Management Category

- 1. <u>Implementation</u>: Extent to which the nominee used the energy efficiency tools identified in E.O. 13123 and that it maximized their effectiveness.
- 2. <u>Results</u>: Extent to which the nominee showed the best net effect toward achieving reduced greenhouse gas emissions, improved energy efficiency, and taxpayer savings.
- 3. <u>Institutionalization and Transferability</u>: Extent to which the nominee ensured a lasting impact on a program and demonstrated leadership in fostering the promotion of energy and water conservation projects.

4. <u>Outreach Activities</u>: Extent to which education, training and other outreach activities increased the awareness of energy and water conservation programs at the facility or agency.

SPECIAL AWARD CATEGORIES

Presidential Awards

The President will recognize those groups that show excellence in all or at least one of the following categories; preference will be given to groups that show excellence in all four categories:

<u>Implementation</u>: The agency energy team showed that it used the energy efficiency tools identified in E.O. 13123 and that it maximized their effectiveness.

<u>Institutionalization</u>: The agency energy team maximized the incorporation of the tools identified in E.O. 13123 into the agency's policies and practices.

<u>Outreach</u>: The agency energy team communicated its use of the tools identified in E.O. 13123 so as to best affect energy efficiency policies, practices, or perceptions of the agency, other agencies, the private sector, or the general public.

<u>Results</u>: The agency energy team showed the best net effect toward achieving the main goals of the EO (reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving energy efficiency to save taxpayer dollars).

The tools identified in E.O. 13123 include: using life cycle cost analysis in making decisions about investments in products, services, and construction; conducting facility energy audits; using alternative financing contract mechanisms; selecting ENERGY STAR® retrofit products; incorporation of the ENERGY STAR® building rating tool into facility audits; using sustainable building design principles; encouraging energy and water provisions in new or renegotiated lease agreements; exploring energy efficiency opportunities in industrial facilities; implementing district energy systems, and other highly efficient systems, into new construction or retrofit projects; using off-grid energy generation systems; developing employee incentive programs to reward exceptional performance in implementing the order; incorporating successful implementation of the order into employee position descriptions and performance evaluations; and training personnel to implement provisions of the order.

Exceptional Service Award

The winning nomination will demonstrate that the individual proactively created and instituted innovative and effective energy or water conservation programs, projects, or technologies or increased the use of renewable energy.

Director's Award

At the discretion of the Director of FEMP, special citations(s) may be awarded to individuals, groups or organizations that made unique contributions to Federal energy management, water efficiency, or use of renewable energy that have enhanced an agency's efforts to achieve substantial savings through special circumstances. **No separate nomination is needed.**

ENERGY STAR® Building Award for Superior Performance

The FEMP Energy Star® Buildings Award recognizes Federal leadership in operating and managing buildings that received energy performance scores of 95 or higher, out of a possible 100, in FY 2002, earning them Energy Star® labels. **No separate application process is necessary to be considered for this award.** Awardees will be obtained from the EPA Energy Star® Buildings Program's database of FY 2002 building label awards.

XII. AWARDS

FEMP Award winners will be invited to Washington, DC for a Congressional reception, awards luncheon, and ceremony, during which all winners (individuals, small group members, and organization representatives) will receive plaques. Presidential Award winners will be invited to a separate White House ceremony to receive special recognition from the Office of Management and Budget and the President.

XIII. <u>DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS</u>

To be included in this Program, <u>six</u> copies of each nomination with the cover sheet must be received in the FEMP office by <u>May 16, 2003</u>. Failure to meet that deadline may result in disqualification. Agency energy coordinators should direct all nominations to:

Office of Federal Energy Management Program, EE-2L Federal Energy and Water Management Awards U.S. Department of Energy 1000 Independence Avenue, SW

Mail Code: EE-2L

Washington, DC 20585-0121 POC: Nellie Tibbs Greer Phone: 202/586-7875

GLOSSARY

<u>Alternative Financing Project</u> involves the execution and award of an ESPC or utility services agreement at a Federal facility in order to improve the energy use at the facility or reduce the cost of energy and operations.

<u>Contributor</u> means an outside source of support that significantly assists or enables an individual, small group, or organization in executing an ESPC or utility services agreement at a Federal facility in order to reduce the cost of energy and operations or improve the use of energy at the facility.

<u>Effective Program Implementation and Management</u> involves a comprehensive management approach to successful implementation of energy and water efficiency and renewable energy programs with quantifiable results of progress toward stated energy goals.

<u>Energy-Efficient Mobility</u> involves the improvement in energy efficiency or reduction in energy cost for Federal mobile equipment including aircraft, ships, and vehicles.

<u>Energy Efficiency/Energy Management</u> involves the improvement in facility energy efficiency or

reduction in facility energy costs based on identifying and implementing innovative energy conservation techniques, including any use of renewable energy technologies.

<u>Fiscal Year</u> represents the Government fiscal year, which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30 of the following year. All nominations being submitted for a 2003 award must involve activities that took place in fiscal year 2002, which began on October 1, 2001 and ended on September 30, 2002.

<u>Innovation</u> involves the novel application of best practices or strategies for reducing energy or water use or in promoting renewables in a new and original manner.

<u>Innovative New Technology</u> involves the installation of new and emerging energy technologies in lieu of a conventional energy technology for the purpose of both reducing overall conventional energy or water costs and establishing a track record for the technology in the Federal sector. New Technologies are defined as technologies that have been commercially available less than 3 years or those technologies that have not significantly penetrated the Federal market. Distributed Energy Resource projects will be considered in this category.

<u>Purchase or supply of energy-efficient or water-conserving products</u> involves specifying, acquiring, or supplying to other agencies products that are energy-efficient, water-conserving, or associated with green power buys.

<u>Renewable Energy</u> includes, but is not limited to, photovoltaics, solar thermal, passive solar design, biomass, wind, geothermal heat pumps, and low head hydro dams. Involves the implementation of renewable energy technologies or design concepts (such as principles of solar design) to substitute for or minimize the use of nonrenewable energy sources.

<u>Sustainable and Green Practices</u> refers to six fundamental principles of sustainable design: optimizing site potential, minimizing energy consumption, protecting and conserving water, using environmentally preferable products, enhancing indoor environmental quality, and optimizing operational and maintenance practices.

<u>Transferability</u> involves the extent to which the technologies, best practices, applications or strategies used at one facility can be used at other facilities.

<u>Water Conservation</u> involves the reduction in water use or cost at Federal facilities by initiating water projects and effective management technologies including, but not limited to, plumbing fixture retrofits, water reclamation and recycling programs, and awareness programs. Also includes Cost-Beneficial Landscape Practices demonstrated at Federal facilities and Federally funded projects which utilize techniques that minimize the adverse effects of landscaping and complement and enhance the local environment.